

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 840

By Richardson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Justin Van Tassel Hill of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened and deeply moved to learn of the untimely passing of Mr. Justin Van Tassel Hill; and

WHEREAS, Justin Hill was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, possessing an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, Mr. Hill was an enthusiastic student who had developed expertise in a number of disciplines, including massage therapy, clinical hypnotherapy, and neuro-linguistic programming, in addition to working towards a nursing degree as a pre-nursing major at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Concorde Career College, Justin Hill deservedly received awards and accolades, such as the Associate of the Month Award for his many contributions to the school and the Caught You Caring Award for his many acts of kindness to the students and staff of the school; and

WHEREAS, a licensed massage therapist since 1999, Mr. Hill held the distinction of being the only practitioner of connective tissue massage in the Memphis community; and

WHEREAS, a massage therapist of vision and foresight whose benevolent nature knew no bounds, Justin Hill was developing a massage program in collaboration with the Veterans Administration to help treat veterans with post traumatic stress disorder; and

WHEREAS, his “magic fingers” were widely acknowledged in Memphis, and Justin Hill served the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Massage Therapy Association; in addition to penning articles about massage therapy which will be published in the newspaper, *The Memphis Flyer*, as well as *Memphis Health and Fitness Magazine*; and

WHEREAS, he further served his profession with diligence and dexterity as the Chairman of the Tennessee Massage Licensure Board, was the owner and operator of two massage therapy businesses, was an instructor and past director of the massage therapy program at Concorde Career College, was a massage therapist at the Silver Salon and University Club, and attended many workshops and classes to remain current in the field of massage therapy; and

WHEREAS, a good and friendly neighbor, Mr. Hill was a past member of the board of the Cooper-Young Neighborhood Association; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Justin Hill enjoyed the love and companionship of his friends and family; he was a bright and shining light in the lives of many people, and he will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, Justin Hill is survived by his son, Moses B. Hill; his parents, Robert E. and Kathleen V. Hill; his sister, Heather J. Hill; his brothers, Matthew T. Hill, Simon N. Hill, and C.B. Luke Hill; and his grandfather E.E. Ted Van Tassel; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hill leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Justin Van Tassel Hill, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Justin Van Tassel Hill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.